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transcribed from tape

Life Magazine today charged the Nixon administration has seriously tampered with justice in San Diego, in several instances taking steps to neutralize and frustrate its own law enforcement officials. Among other specific instances, Life says U.S. Attorney Howard Steward killed an investigation of reports that illegal political contributions were being funneled to a company controlled by C. Arnolt Smith. Smith is a long-time friend and financial ally of President Nixon, and Steward had been recommended by the President on Smith's recommendation, according to the magazine.

Acting Attorney General Richard Kleindienst has publicly denied the charge concerning Steward, and told CBS News today, "I'm no penny ante, two-bit, little crook. I testified under oath on I.T. & T. and I'll do the same on this matter."